MARVEL

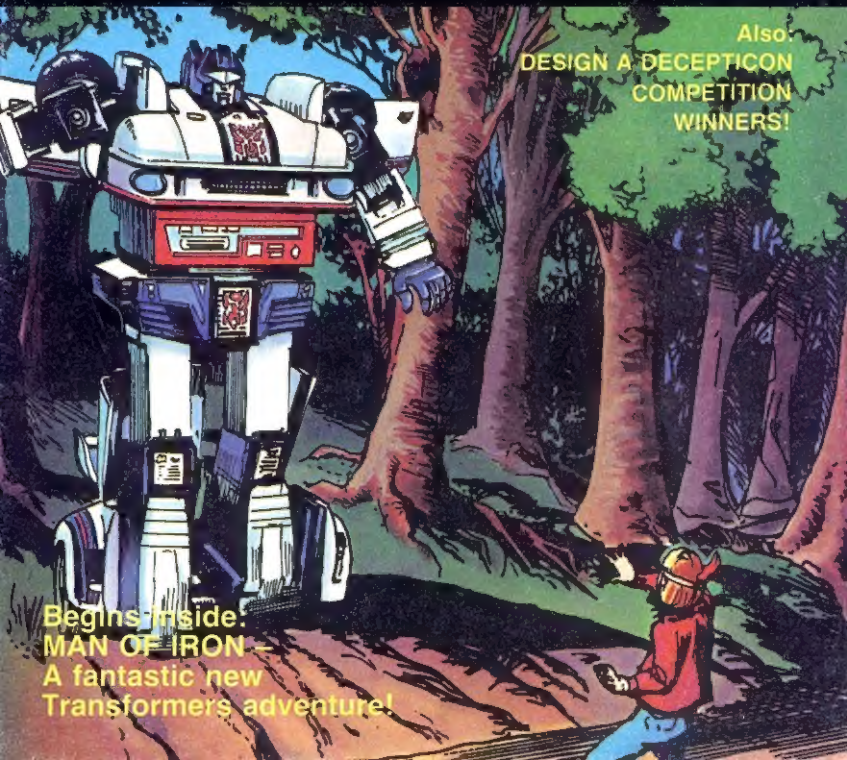
FORTNIGHTLY
12th JAN. – 25th JAN. 1985 NO9 25p

In this issue: YOUR TRANSFORMERS TOY CHECK-LIST!

THE TRANSFORMERS

HEROIC AUTOBOT

WARRIOR ROBOTS IN DISGUISE



Also: DESIGN A DECEPTICON COMPETITION WINNERS!

Begins inside: MAN OF IRON – A fantastic new Transformers adventure!

MAN OF IRON

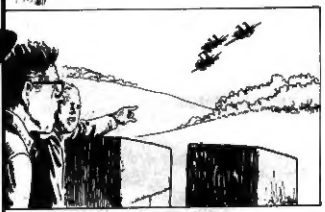
STANSHAM CASTLE, SOMEWHERE IN SOUTHERN ENGLAND. AT THE END OF A LONG, HOT SUMMER...
WHO KNOWS HOW MANY FEET HAD TRODDEN THESE PATHS IN ITS NINE HUNDRED YEAR HISTORY... OR HOW MANY INVADERS HAD BEEN BROKEN ON ITS BLEAK STONE WALLS?

THERE WERE FEW VISITORS NOW... JUST A TRICKLE OF TOURISTS PASSING THROUGH THE VILLAGE OF STANSHAM LESS THAN A MILE TO THE NORTH...

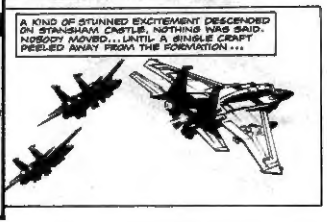
Script: Steve Parkhouse Art: John Ridgway Editor: Sheila Crenna

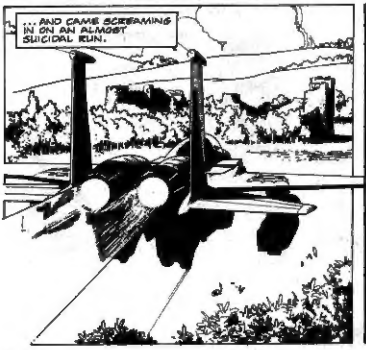
UNTIL...

BOOOOOM



A KIND OF STUNNED EXCITEMENT DESCENDED ON STANSHAM CASTLE. NOTHING WAS SAID. NOBODY MOVED... UNTIL A SINGLE CRAFT PEELED AWAY FROM THE FORMATION...





...AND CAME SCREAMING IN ON AN ALMOST SUICIDAL RUN.

IT WAS THEN GEORGE REALISED THAT SOMETHING WAS WRONG. SOMETHING WAS IMPOSSIBLY, DREADFULLY WRONG...
BOMBS! OH, DEAR GOD HE'S BOMBING US! THE STUPID ...

WHAAAAAMPH!
AND BY THE TIME HE REALISED... THEY WERE GONE.
BUT NOBODY WAS HURT. SHOCKED, STUNNED, CONFUSED AND BEMUSED ... BUT NOT ACTUALLY INJURED...
WELL, IT'S EITHER A MIRACLE... OR THE CHAPS IN THOSE PLANES KNEW EXACTLY WHAT THEY WERE DOING...
...STANSHAM CASTLE... AMBULANCE AND POLICE! PLEASE HURRY... THERE'S BEEN AN ACCIDENT... NO... A BOMBING...
SOMEBODY MIGHT BE HURT...
YOU SEE, THE EXPLOSION WASN'T A BIG ONE, LITTLE MORE THAN A DUMMY REALLY. HARDLY LEFT A CRATER.
BUT THE SECOND BOMB HAS BURIED ITSELF VERY DEEPLY INTO THE GROUND AND REMAINS UNEXPLODED. WE'LL HAVE TO DIG IT OUT...
HAS THE CURATOR BEEN NOTIFIED?
YES, SIR. HE SHOULD BE ON HIS WAY BY NOW.
ROY? ARE YOU GOING OUT?
THAT WAS GEORGE COUSINS ON THE PHONE. THERE'S BEEN A BOMB SCARE AT THE CASTLE. I'LL HAVE TO GO OVER THERE...

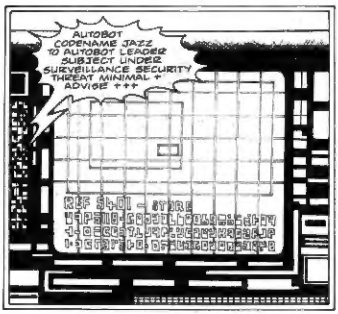
YOU DON'T THINK THAT THUNDER WE HEARD WAS A BOMB, DO YOU?
I DON'T KNOW... GEORGE WOULDN'T SAY MUCH.
ROY! SAMMY'S BEEN PLAYING IN THE WOODS BY THE CASTLE ALL DAY! IF YOU SEE HIM, SEND HIM STRAIGHT HOME WILL YOU? TAKE CARE!
OF COURSE I WILL. DON'T WORRY...
WHAT KIND OF BOZO WOULD WANT TO BOMB THE CASTLE? THE SAXON LIBERATION FRONT? THE MIND BOGGLES...
ROY HARKER, THE CASTLE CURATOR, STOPPED HIS CAR HALF A MILE FROM THE CASTLE. HIS SON, SAMMY, LIKED TO PLAY HERE...
THE WOODS WERE THICK AND SILENT. A BOY COULD LOSE HIMSELF FOR HOURS ON END...
SAMMY! SA-MM-EEE!
ROY HAD THE STRANGEST FEELING THAT HE WAS BEING WATCHED...
SAMMY! YOUR MUM SAYS GO HOME!

RUNNING WOLF SAYS... MANY MOONS MUST COME AND GO UNTIL HE TASTES VENISON ONCE MORE IN HIS FATHER'S LODGE...
UNTIL THEN, HE MUST STALK THE GREAT BULL MOOSE AND HEAR HIS ROAR...
SAMMY!
MUST SEND MESSAGE TO CROW FOOT. TELL HIM BRING MANY BRAVES...
THWAAANGGG
RATS! I'VE LOST AN ARROW! I'VE ONLY GOT ONE LEFT!
I'LL HAVE TO CLIMB UP AND GET IT!
JUST HOPE THIS BRANCH HOLDS...
NEARLY... THERE... JUST STRETCH A... BIT MORE...

G-G-GAAAHH!
NYAAAAH!
DAD! DAD! HAAAA... HELP!
UNNH!
DAAAAD!
CRUNCH!

DAAAD! WAIT!
OH, NO... PLEASE! NO!!
SAMMY RAN, IN BLIND, NUMBING PANIC HE RAN AS FAST AS HE COULD...
AND HE DIDN'T STOP RUNNING UNTIL HE REACHED THE STREET WHERE HE LIVED...
AND HOME...
SCREEEECH!

TEN
NUMBER TEN...
MILLBANK ROAD
MILLBANK ROAD... TWO MILES EAST + STANSHAM VILLAGE + GRID REFERENCE FIVE FOUR ZERO ZERO ONE SIX01 ++++


AUTOBOT CODENAME JAZZ TO AUTOBOT LEADER SUBJECT UNDER SURVEILLANCE SECURITY THREAT MINIMAL + ADVISE +++

AUTOBOT LEADER TO CODENAME JAZZ MAINTAIN SURVEILLANCE IN EVENT OF SECURITY UPRATE ENGAGE AND RESTRAIN +++

WHAT I CAN'T FIGURE OUT, CAPTAIN... IS WHY THE PLANES CHOSE THE CASTLE AS THEIR TARGET...
THE AIR FORCE BOYS DON'T KNOW EITHER. ACCORDING TO YOUR MAN GEORGE, THE AIR-CRAFT WERE UNMARKED + WE HAVE NO IDEA OF THEIR IDENTITY OR NATIONALITY...

UNTIL WE DIG UP THAT SECOND BOMB, THE WHOLE THING REMAINS A MYSTERY...
MISTER HARKER!

CONTINUED...

YOUR WIFE'S BEEN ON THE PHONE... IT'S YOUR BOY SAMMY. HE ARRIVED HOME IN A STATE OF SHOCK...
CAR YARD
WHAT?
SHE'S CALLED THE DOCTOR IN, BUT CAN YOU GET HOME AS SOON AS POSSIBLE?
"1017 AT THE CASTLE OF STENSHAME, A GREAT FORCE LED BY GODWIN THE STRONGARM DID SURROUND AND BESIEGE THE CASTLE AND PLUNDER THE NEIGH-BOURING VILLAGE FOR FOOD AND CATTLE..."
"THERE MANY MEN FELL DEAD... AND WOMEN AND CHILDREN BURNT IN THEIR HOUSES... AND SOME HOSTAGES TAKEN..."
"AND GODWIN GATHERED HIS MOST FEARSOME FORCE TO BREACH THE MAIN GATE WITH GREAT TRUNKS OF TREES AND LOATHLY MISSILES OF FIRE, WHICH THEY DID, ALTHOUGH MANY FELL..."

THEN THE GROUND WAS SE ZED BY A GREAT SHAKING AS F BY THE HAND OF GOD AND MANY MEN CRIED OUT AND MADE THE SIGN OF THE CROSS PLEADING WITH OUR LORD TO SPARE THEM
BUT THE LORD HAD SEEN F T TO SEND AN APPAR TION AMONGST THEM TO STR KE FEAR NTO THEIR F ERCE HEARTS AND THE APPAR T ON WAS HORR BLE TO BE OLD AND DID ER GHT EVEN THE HORSES
"AND THE APPARITION WAS FEARFUL BEING A MAN OF IRON OF GREAT HE GHT AND G RTH SEEM NG UNHEEDFUL TO ARROWS SPEAR OR SWORD
THE MAN OF IRON FORDED THE STREAM AT ELDRED'S CROSS MAK NG GREAT STRIDES FOR THE ABBEY AND SOME BRAVE SOULS FOLLOWED THOUGH NONE DARED COME TOO CLOSE
FOR HE CARRIED A SWORD OF F RE AND A JAVEL N OF FLAME AND THUNDERBOLTS CAME FROM HIS HAND
"SO THAT THE PRIEST AETHELRIC DID FALL N HIS PATH AND OFFER HIM THE BLESSINGS OF OUR LORD AND BESEECH H M TO RETURN FROM WHENCE HE HAD COME WH CH HE THEN DID
"AND DID MAKE OFF AT GREAT HASTE TO MANEWOOD LEAV NG NO MAN HARMED EXCEPT BY THOSE ARROWS THAT HAD PIERCED THE R HEARTS EACH MAN BEL EV NG TH S WAS THE WRATH OF GOD

THE MAN OF IRON WAS SEEN IN THIS VICINITY THREE TIMES IN ALL. THERE SEEMS NO PATTERN TO HIS APPEARANCE, OTHER THAN ONE THING
ACCORDING TO PARISH RECORDS, AN EARTH TREMOR PRECEDED EACH VISITATION. ISN'T THAT INTERESTING?
TH.NK T.S SCAREY
SAMMY THE ER... ROBOT YOU SAW IN THE WOODS TODAY
DID IT LOOK LIKE THIS?
YES. .YES IT DID. THAT'S MORE OR LESS WHAT IT LOOKED LIKE! BUT HOW DID YOU KNOW?
THIS IS A DRAWING TAKEN FROM AN ILLUMINATED MANUSCRIPT FOUND IN THE CASTLE CHAPEL BY MY PREDECESSOR TWENTY FIVE YEARS AGO...
IT'S THE MAN OF IRON..
THE MANUSCRIPT WAS COMPLETED IN 1070, SAMMY. IT IS OVER NINE HUNDRED YEARS OLD!

TO BE CONTINUED.

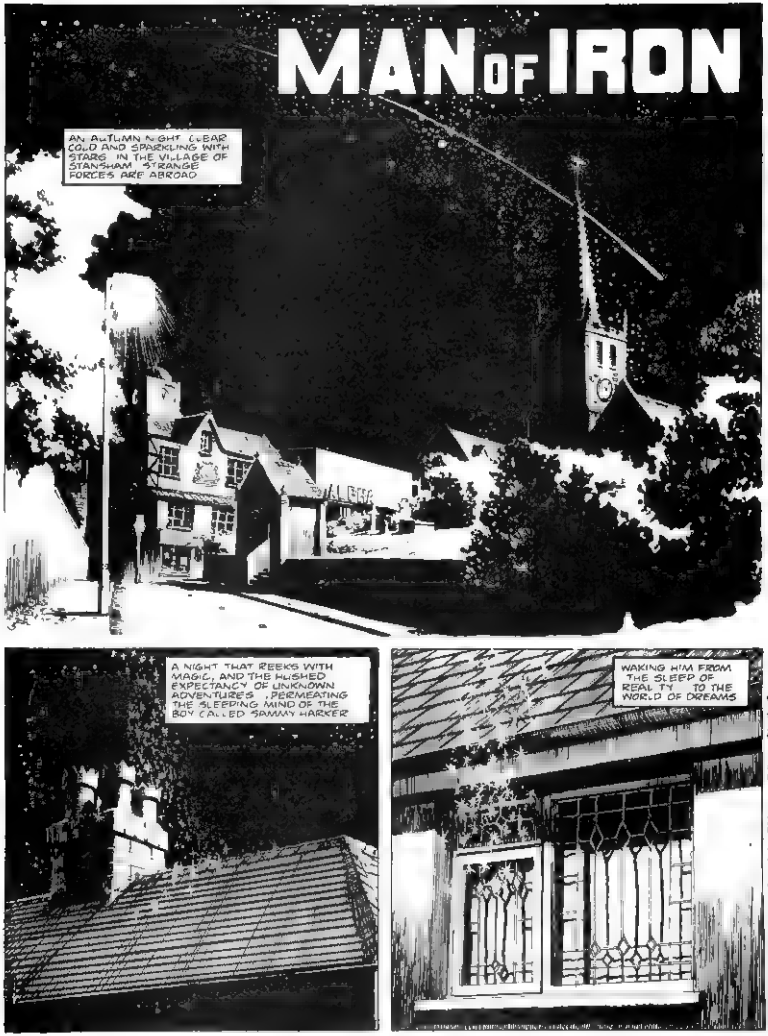
MARVEL

THE TRANSFORMERS

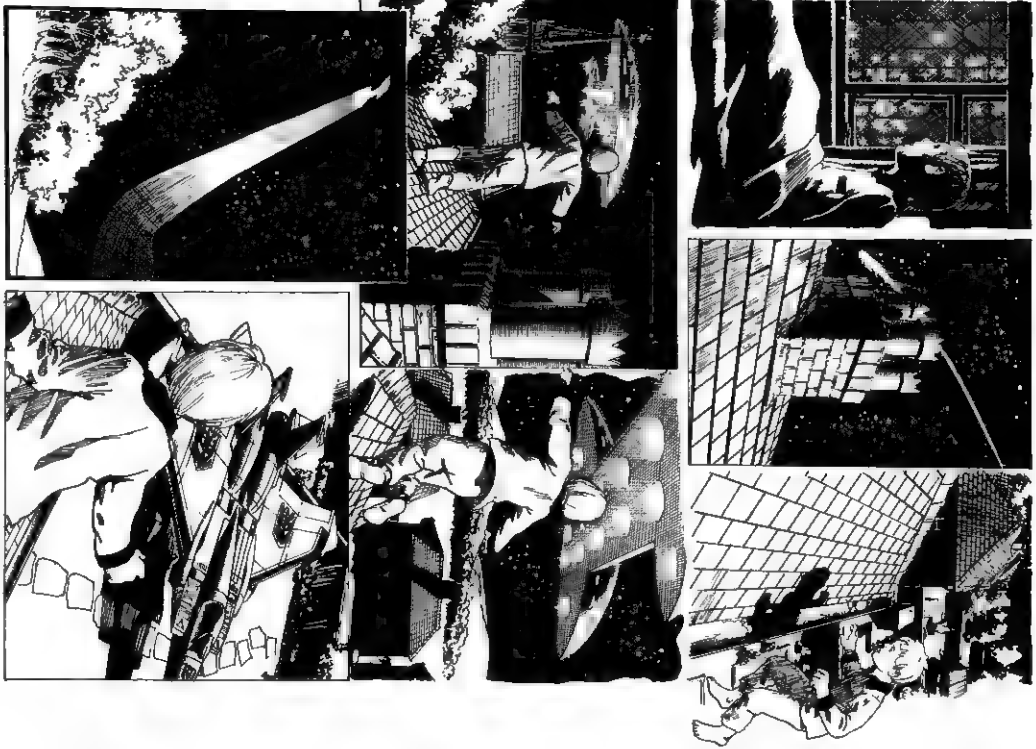
HEROIC AUTOBOT

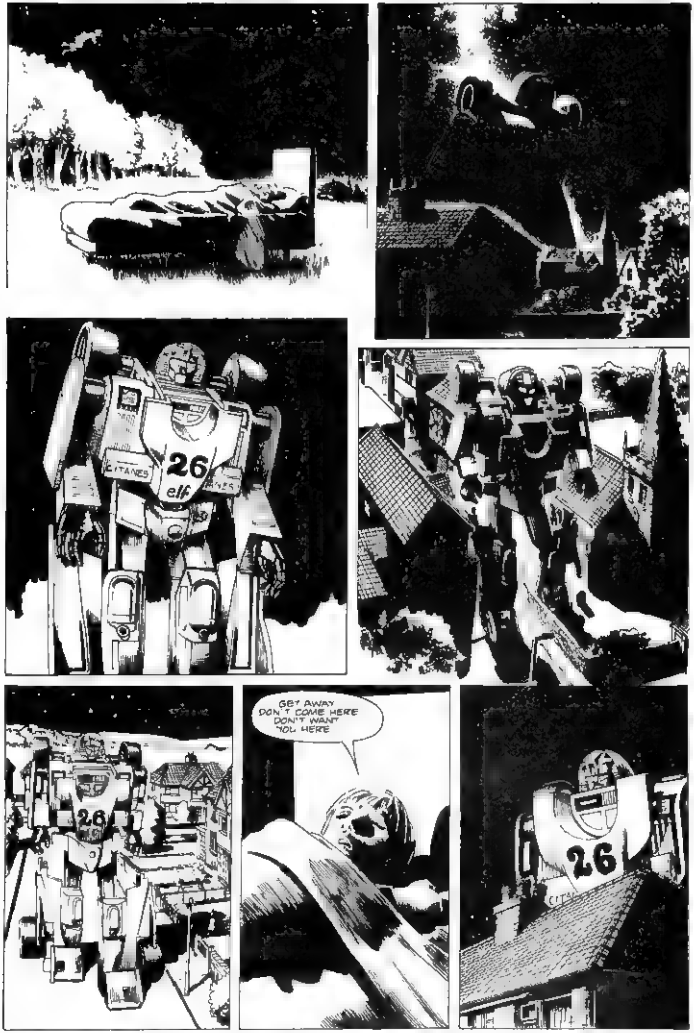
WARRIOR ROBOTS IN DISGUISE

MAN OF IRON


AN AUTUMN NIGHT CLEAR COLD AND SPARKLING WITH STARS IN THE VILLAGE OF STANSHAM STRANGE FORCES ARE ABROAD
A NIGHT THAT REEKS WITH MAGIC, AND THE HUSHED EXPECTANCY OF UNKNOWN ADVENTURES . PERMEATING THE SLEEPING MIND OF THE BOY CALLED SAMMY HARKER
WAKING HIM FROM THE SLEEP OF REALITY TO THE WORLD OF DREAMS

Script Steve Parkhouse Art John Ridgway Editor Sheila Crenna




26
elf
GET AWAY
DON'T COME HERE
DON'T WANT
YOU HERE
26

NANA!
I CAN'T TALK TO YOU NOW. I CAN'T COME WITH YOU.
I SAID I CAN'T!
EHH...?
WHO'S DOING THIS? WHAT DO YOU WANT?
NO!? LET ME SLEEP! IT'S NOT FAIR!
STOP BOTHERING ME NOW! LEAVE ME ALONE!

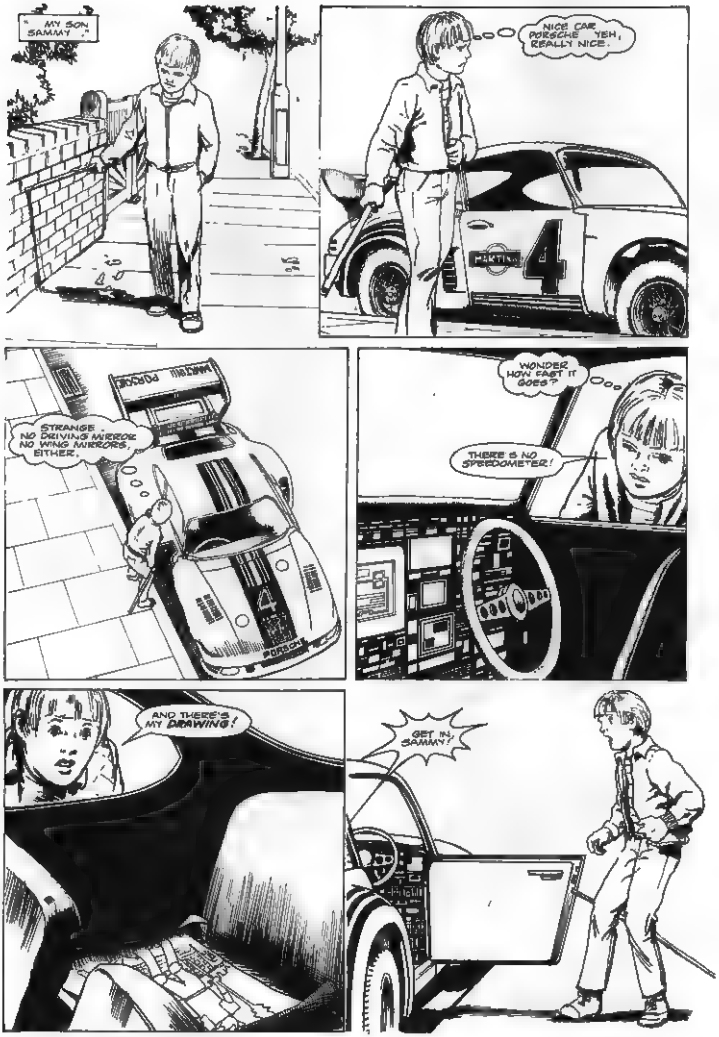
THE MAN OF IRON! HE'S FLYING!
HE'S FLYING AWAY!
PUT ME DOWN! DON'T WANT TO GO!

CONTINUED...

SAMMY! SAMMY! WHAT'S WRONG? WHAT'S WRONG?
THIS IS INSANE! HIS DOOR'S LOCKED!
GET OUT THE WAY, LOVE ... I HAVE TO BREAK IT DOWN!
SAMMY!
OH, JESU
THERE'S A HURRICANE BLOWING THROUGH HERE
NO WONDER THE LITTLE BEGGAR COULDN'T SLEEP IT WOULDN'T SURPRISE ME

WHAT THE HECK IS GOING ON AROUND HERE?
JUST WHAT THE HECK IS GOING ON AROUND HERE, CAPTAIN?
AH, MISTER HARKER. I'M AFRAID THE WHOLE AREA HAS TO BE CORDONED OFF...
IT'S NOW A QUESTION OF SPECIAL SECURITY.
SPECIAL SECURITY? I DON'T UNDERSTAND.
LET ME TRY AND CLARIFY THINGS FOR YOU...
CONTINUED...

WE'VE DONE A SONIC SCAN OF THE HILL BENEATH THE CASTLE, HOPING TO LOCATE WHAT WE THOUGHT WAS AN UNEXPLODED BOMB...
MISTER HARKER, YOU MAY FIND THIS DIFFICULT TO BELIEVE
THERE'S A VERY LARGE OBJECT BURIED UNDER THE HILL. VERY LARGE INDEED.
HOW LARGE?
WELL.. AHH...AT A ROUGH ESTIMATE? ABOUT THE SIZE OF AN OCEAN-GOING LINER.
WHAAT?
WELL, FOR GOD'S SAKE WHAT IS IT?
WE DON'T KNOW.
I'VE CALLED IN EXTRA MEN AND WE'RE GOING TO EXCAVATE.
WE WANT TO DISCOURAGE SPECULATION AT THIS POINT. NO PRESS... NO VISITORS. EVERYTHING HUSH-HUSH...
YES. I UNDERSTAND.
I WOULD ALSO SUGGEST THAT YOU DON'T SPEAK OF THIS TO ANYONE... FAMILY OR FRIENDS..
IT'S A BIT LATE FOR THAT, CAPTAIN...
THERE'S SOMEBODY WHO MAY KNOW MORE ABOUT THIS THAN YOU OR I.


"MY SON SAMMY."
NICE CAR PORSCHE YEH, REALLY NICE.
4
STRANGE NO DRIVING MIRROR NO WING MIRRORS, EITHER.
WONDER HOW FAST IT GOES?
THERE'S NO SPEEDOMETER!
AND THERE'S MY DRAWING!
GET IN, SAMMY!

THERE'S NOTHING TO BE AFRAID OF GET IN WE'LL GO FOR A DRIVE
I CAN'T
WHY NOT? IT'S A NICE DAY AND YOU'RE ON HOLIDAY
WELL?
MY MUM TOLD ME NOT TO TAKE LIFTS FROM STRANGERS!
BUT I'M NOT A STRANGER SAMMY
DEEP DOWN YOU KNOW, DON'T YOU? YOU'VE BEEN WANTING AN ADVENTURE ALL YOUR LIFE
BESIDES I HAVE SOMETHING TO TELL YOU
SOMETHING REALLY IMPORTANT
WHY NOT JUST SIT FOR A WHILE IN THE FRONT SEAT?
JUST PRETEND YOU'RE DRIVING
WOW! THIS IS GREAT! I FEEL LIKE A RACING DRIVER!
SAMMY THOSE MEN AT THE CASTLE THE MEN YOUR FATHER'S BEEN SEEING. WHAT DO YOU KNOW OF THEM?
OH THEY'RE DIGGING UP A BOMB SOME PLANES CAME OVER AND DROPPED A

CONTINUED...

REMEMBER: NEVER ACCEPT LIFTS FROM STRANGERS!

TO BE CONTINUED!

MARVEL
FORTNIGHTLY
9th Feb - 22 nd Feb 1985 №11
27p

THE TRANSFORMERS

HEROIC AUTOBOT

WARRIOR ROBOTS IN DISGUISE

ACTION AND ADVENTURE INSIDE!

MAN OF IRON

LIFE HAD CHANGED FOR A BOY CALLED SAMMY HARKER AS IF HE HAD **AWOKEN** FROM HIS OLD LIFE INTO A STRANGE NEW WORLD OF ADVENTURE

HE HAS SEEN A GIANT **ROBOT** IN THE WOODS NEAR HIS HOME. HE HAS HEARD A CAR **SPEAK**...

SCRIPT	ART
PARKHOUSE	**COLLINS**
LETTERS	COLOURS
STARKINGS	**GINA HART**
EDITOR **SHEILA CRANNA**	

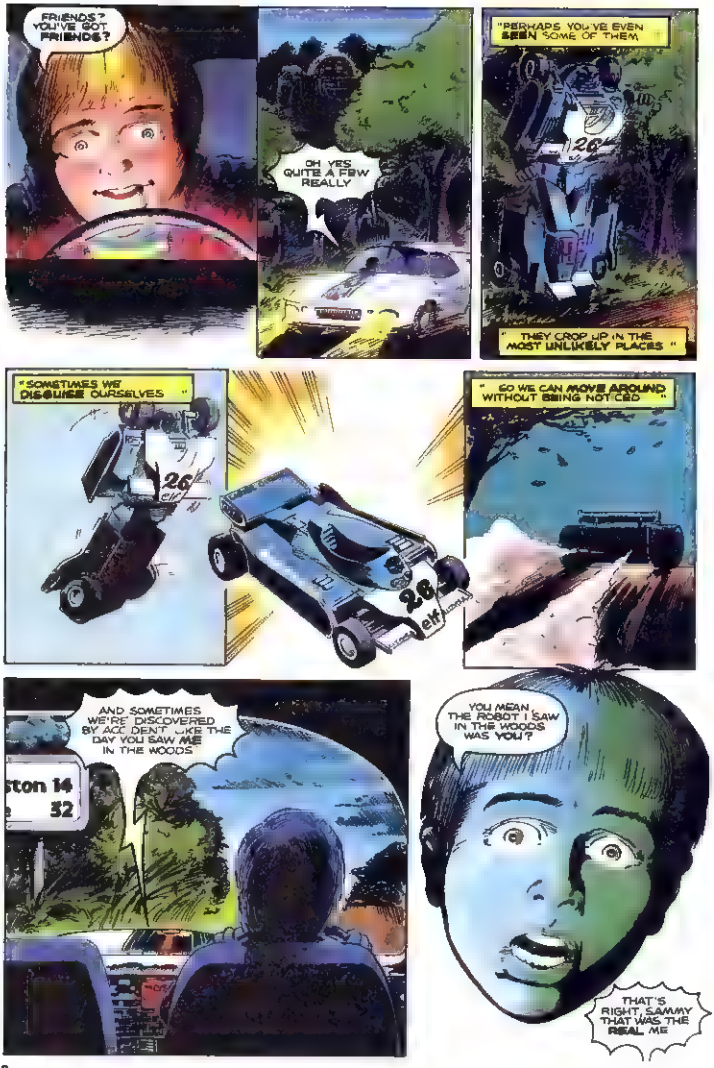
NOW, THAT SAME CAR HAS MADE OFF WITH HIM, CATAPULTING HIM INTO DRAMA AND BREATHLESS DANGER AT JUST OVER EIGHTY MILES AN HOUR

WHERE ARE YOU **TAKING** ME?

DON'T WORRY, SAMMY, I'M NOT GOING TO **HURT** YOU!

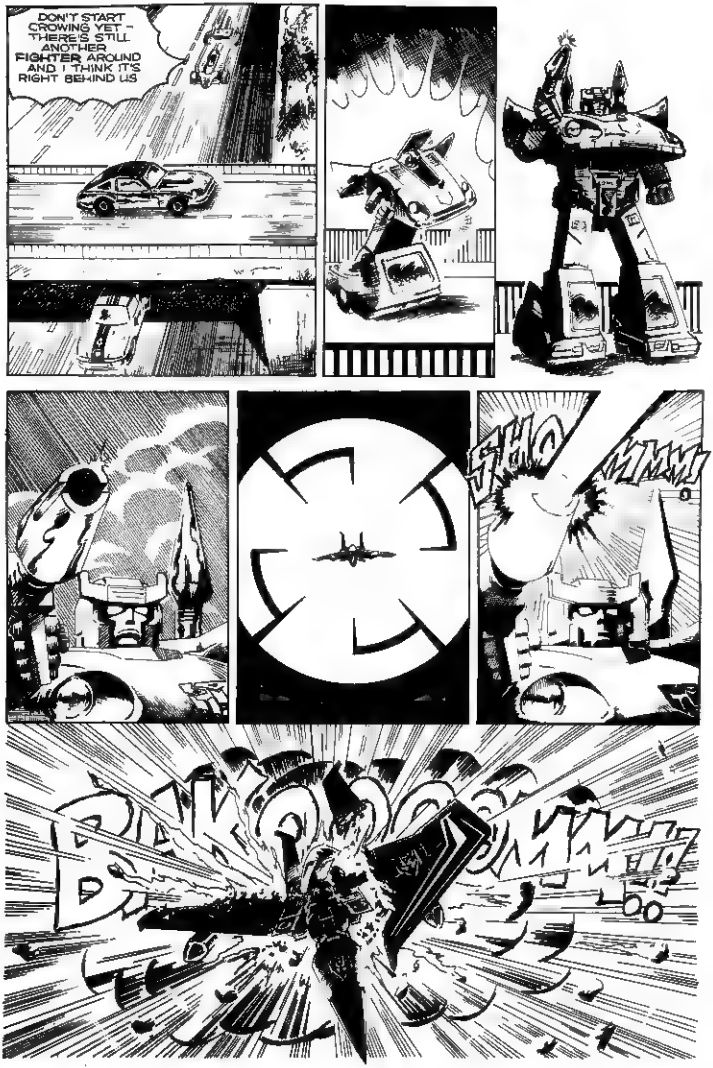
THERE'S SOMETHING I WANT TO TELL YOU... AND THERE'S SOMETHING I WANT **YOU** TO TELL **ME**.

I'M TAKING YOU TO MEET SOME OF MY FRIENDS


FRIENDS? YOU'VE GOT FRIENDS?
OH YES QUITE A FEW REALLY
"PERHAPS YOU'VE EVEN SEEN SOME OF THEM
26
" THEY CROP UP IN THE MOST UNLIKELY PLACES "
" SOMETIMES WE DISGUISE OURSELVES "
26
26
elf
" SO WE CAN MOVE AROUND WITHOUT BEING NOTICED "
AND SOMETIMES WE'RE DISCOVERED BY ACCIDENT LIKE THE DAY YOU SAW ME IN THE WOODS
YOU MEAN THE ROBOT I SAW IN THE WOODS WAS YOU?
THAT'S RIGHT, SAMMY THAT WAS THE REAL ME

MY NAME IS UNPRONOUNCEABLE IN YOUR LANGUAGE SO JUST CALL ME JAZZ!
AND THAT'S MIRAGE IN HIT BEHIND US!
THIS IS WHERE WE RENDEZVOUS WITH TRAILBREAKER
ALL SET, SAMMY?
SURE THING, JAZZ!
THEN LET'S GO!
26 CITANES
HALF A MILE ABOVE THE MOTORWAY, TWO UNMARKED AIRCRAFT CIRCLE, SCANNING THE TERRAIN BELOW...
AND, HAVING SIGHTED THEIR PREY
THEY DIVE...

IT'S A HEAD-ON ATTACK!
WHAP!
KHOOOM!
CRUMMP!
WHOMM!
WELL DONE SAMMY, YOU SAVED ME!
YOU? IT WASN'T YOU I WAS THINKING ABOUT, JAZZ! IT WAS ME!

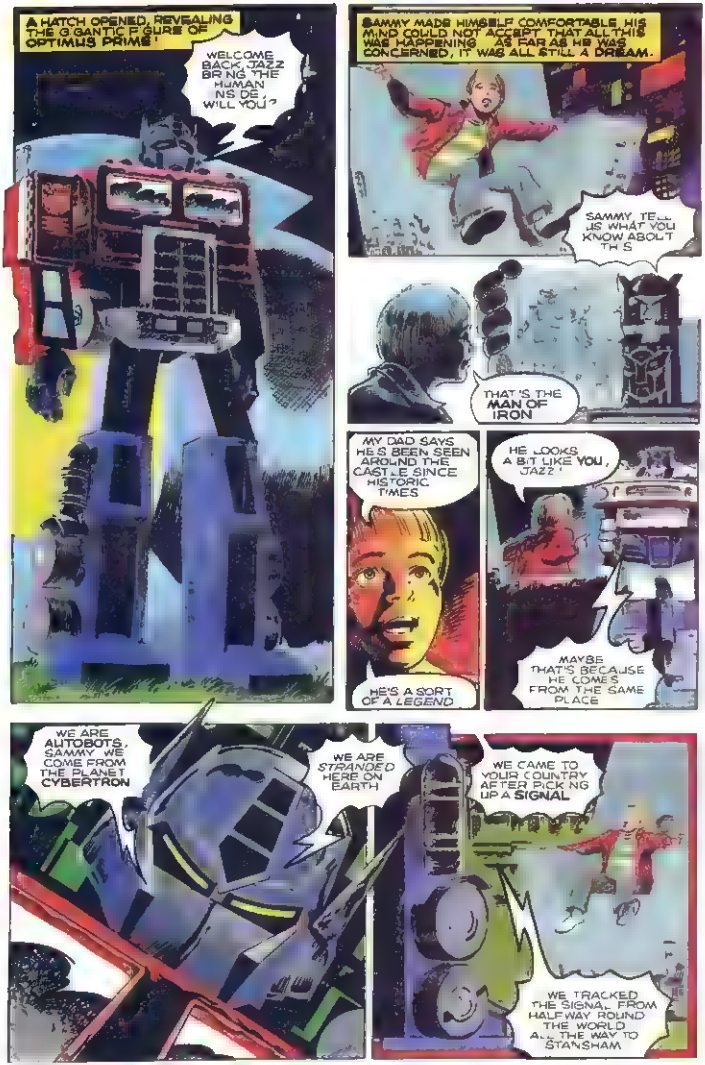

DON'T START CROWING YET - THERE'S STILL ANOTHER FIGHTER AROUND AND I THINK IT'S RIGHT BEHIND US
SHOOM
BLAKOOOM

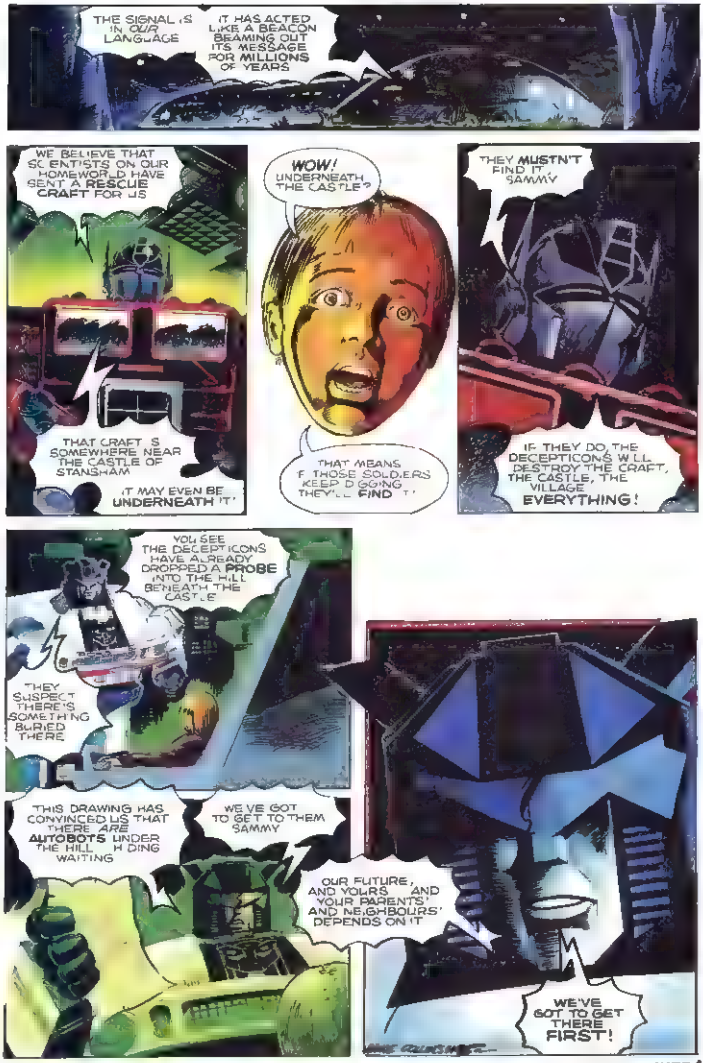
Whoosh!
SHAWAWA
AUTOBOT BLUESTREAK TO PATROL LEADER +++ JUST BRUSHED SOMETHING OFF YOUR TAIL, JAZZ +++ TRY TO BE MORE CAREFUL IN FUTURE, HMMM?
BLUESTREAK OUT+

TURNING OFF THE MOTORWAY AT THE NEXT EXIT, THE TWO AUTOBOTS GLIDED UNNOTICED THROUGH THE ENGLISH COUNTRYSIDE AS DUSK FELL
26
elf

CONTINUED...

THE EXCITEMENT HAD PROVED TOO MUCH FOR SAMMY
SAMMY
SAMMY? IT'S TIME TO START HELPING
MMMM? WHASSUP? TIME FOR SCHOOL?
GIMME FIVE MORE MINUTES, MUM
COME ON, SAMMY
I'M COLD JAZZ
I'M SORRY SAMMY BUT THERE WAS NO TIME TO PACK A SUITCASE
WE ONLY HAVE A SHORT WALK THEN YOU'LL BE WARM AGAIN
WHAT ABOUT MIRAGE?
HE'S STAYING BEHIND TO KEEP WATCH
HERE WE ARE SAMMY
GOSH, IS THAT A SPACESHIP?
A REAL SPACESHIP?
NOT REALLY IT'S A SHUTTLE-CRAFT NOW STAND BACK
AUTOBOT JAZZ TO AUTOBOT LEADER+++ APPROACHING SHUTTLE WITH SURVEILLANCE SUBJECT+++ REQUEST PERMISSION TO BOARD+++
CLUNK
DEEP INSIDE THE SHUTTLE, UNSEEN MACHINERY WHIRRED INTO LIFE


A HATCH OPENED, REVEALING THE GIGANTIC FIGURE OF OPTIMUS PRIME!
WELCOME BACK, JAZZ. BRING THE HUMANOIDS DE-WILL YOU?
SAMMY MADE HIMSELF COMFORTABLE. HIS MIND COULD NOT ACCEPT THAT ALL THIS WAS HAPPENING ... AS FAR AS HE WAS CONCERNED, IT WAS ALL STILL A DREAM.
SAMMY, TELL US WHAT YOU KNOW ABOUT THIS
THAT'S THE MAN OF IRON
MY DAD SAYS HE'S BEEN SEEN AROUND THE CASTLE SINCE HISTORIC TIMES
HE'S A SORT OF A LEGEND
HE LOOKS A BIT LIKE YOU, JAZZ!
MAYBE THAT'S BECAUSE HE COMES FROM THE SAME PLACE
WE ARE AUTOBOTS, SAMMY. WE COME FROM THE PLANET CYBERTRON
WE ARE STRANDED HERE ON EARTH
WE CAME TO YOUR COUNTRY AFTER PICKING UP A SIGNAL
WE TRACKED THE SIGNAL FROM HALFWAY ROUND THE WORLD ALL THE WAY TO STANSHAM


THE SIGNAL IS IN OUR LANGUAGE
IT HAS ACTED LIKE A BEACON BEAMING OUT ITS MESSAGE FOR MILLIONS OF YEARS
WE BELIEVE THAT SCIENTISTS ON OUR HOMEWORLD HAVE SENT A RESCUE CRAFT FOR US
THAT CRAFT IS SOMEWHERE NEAR THE CASTLE OF STANSHAM
IT MAY EVEN BE UNDERNEATH IT!
WOW! UNDERNEATH THE CASTLE?
THAT MEANS IF THOSE SOLDIERS KEEP DOING THEY'LL FIND IT!
THEY MUSTN'T FIND IT SAMMY
IF THEY DO, THE DECEPTICONS WILL DESTROY THE CRAFT, THE CASTLE, THE VILLAGE, EVERYTHING!
YOU SEE THE DECEPTICONS HAVE ALREADY DROPPED A PROBE INTO THE HILL BENEATH THE CASTLE
THEY SUSPECT THERE'S SOMETHING BURIED THERE
THIS DRAWING HAS CONVINCED US THAT THERE ARE AUTOBOTS UNDER THE HILL H DING WAITING
WE'VE GOT TO GET TO THEM SAMMY
OUR FUTURE, AND YOURS AND YOUR PARENTS' AND NEIGHBOURS' DEPENDS ON IT
WE'VE GOT TO GET THERE FIRST!

TO BE CONTINUED!

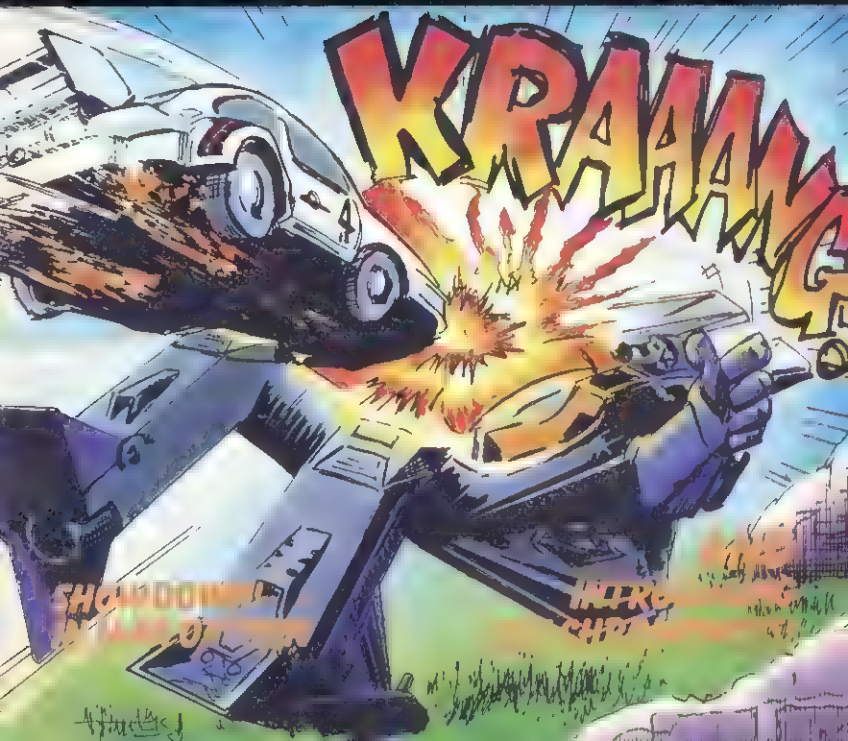
MARVEL
FORTNIGHTLY
23rd Feb. — 8th Mar. 1985 №12 27p

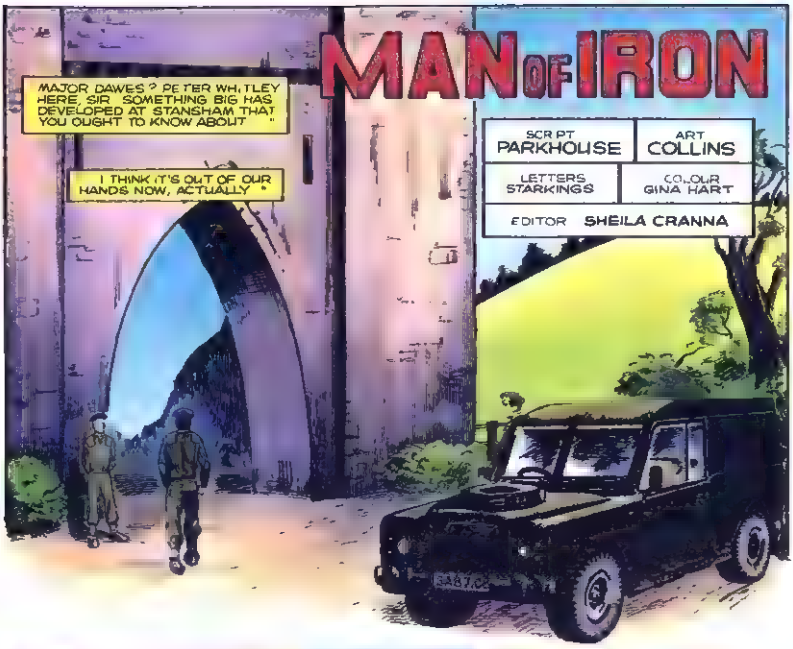
In this issue: JAZZ IN YOUR MARCH CALENDAR!

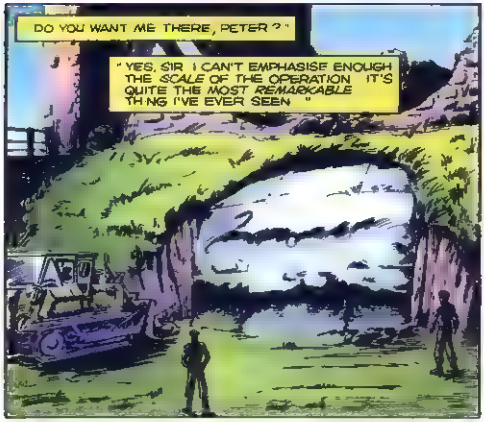
THE TRANSFORMERS

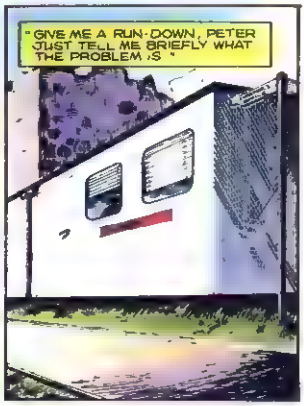
HEROIC AUTOBOT

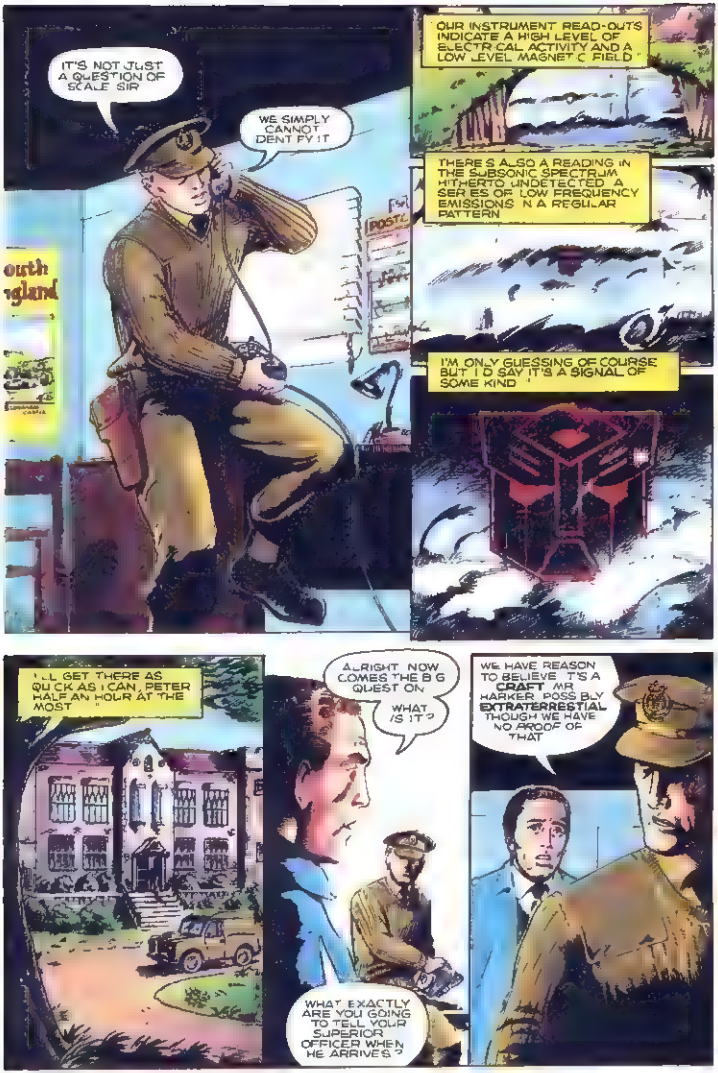
WARRIOR ROBOTS IN DISGUISE




MAN OF IRON
SCRIPT PARKHOUSE
ART COLLINS
LETTERS STARKINGS
COLOUR GINA HART
EDITOR SHEILA CRANNA
MAJOR DAWES? PETER WHITLEY HERE, SIR. SOMETHING BIG HAS DEVELOPED AT STANSHAM THAT YOU OUGHT TO KNOW ABOUT."
I THINK IT'S OUT OF OUR HANDS NOW, ACTUALLY."

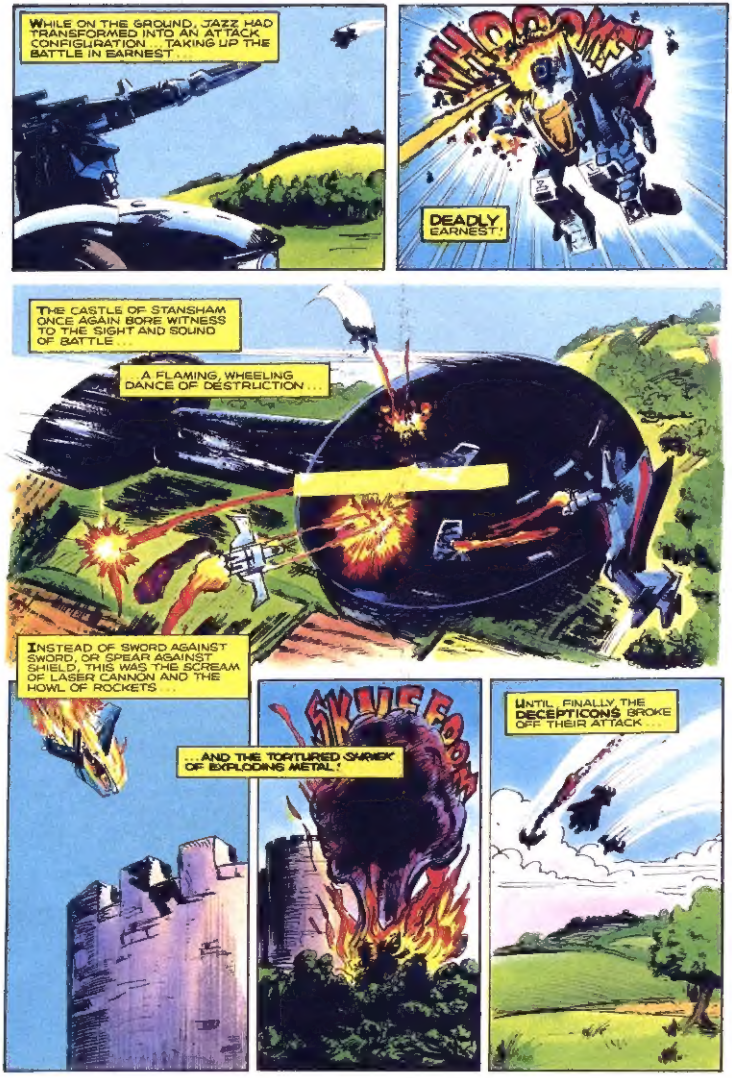

DO YOU WANT ME THERE, PETER?"
"YES, SIR. I CAN'T EMPHASISE ENOUGH THE *SCALE* OF THE OPERATION. IT'S QUITE THE *MOST REMARKABLE* THING I'VE EVER SEEN."


"GIVE ME A RUN-DOWN, PETER. JUST TELL ME BRIEFLY WHAT THE PROBLEM IS."

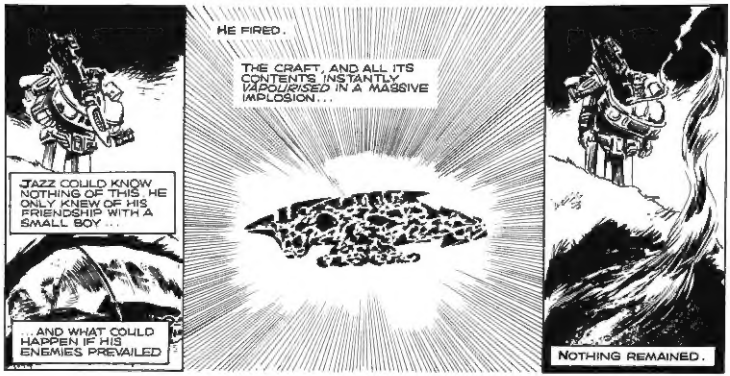

IT'S NOT JUST A QUESTION OF SCALE SIR
WE SIMPLY CANNOT DENY IT
OUR INSTRUMENT READ-OUTS INDICATE A HIGH LEVEL OF ELECTRICAL ACTIVITY AND A LOW LEVEL MAGNETIC FIELD
THERE'S ALSO A READING IN THE SUBSONIC SPECTRUM HITHERTO UNDETECTED A SERIES OF LOW FREQUENCY EMISSIONS IN A REGULAR PATTERN
I'M ONLY GUESSING OF COURSE BUT I'D SAY IT'S A SIGNAL OF SOME KIND
I'LL GET THERE AS QUICK AS I CAN, PETER HALF AN HOUR AT THE MOST
ALRIGHT NOW COMES THE BIG QUESTION
WHAT IS IT?
WE HAVE REASON TO BELIEVE IT'S A CRAFT MR HARKER, POSSIBLY EXTRATERRESTIAL THOUGH WE HAVE NO PROOF OF THAT
WHAT EXACTLY ARE YOU GOING TO TELL YOUR SUPERIOR OFFICER WHEN HE ARRIVES?

IT JUST SEEMED TO APPEAR FROM NOWHERE!
SHO
OOM!
WHAAAAA!
FOOM!
FWAAAAM!

KRAAAAK!
DAD!
SAMMY! THANK HEAVENS YOU'RE SAFE!
DAD, WE'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE!
JAZZ SAYS CLEAR THE AREA!
JAZZ IS TRYING TO HELP US!
DON'T WORRY, SAMMY, WE'RE GETTING OUT NOW.
IF YOU'VE GOT ANY SENSE, CAPTAIN, YOU'LL DO THE SAME!
WE'LL BE RIGHT BEHIND YOU, MR HARKER!
FOUR MILES UP, A DECEPTICON FORMATION FELL INTO A SCREAMING POWERDIVE...
THEIR SIGHTS LOCKED ONTO THE AUTOBOT SHUTTLE BELOW...
THE AUTOBOTS THEMSELVES, HOWEVER, WERE MORE THAN PREPARED...
WHOOM


WHILE ON THE GROUND, JAZZ HAD TRANSFORMED INTO AN ATTACK CONFIGURATION ... TAKING UP THE BATTLE IN EARNEST.
WHOOOM!
DEADLY EARNEST!
THE CASTLE OF STANSHAM ONCE AGAIN BORE WITNESS TO THE SIGHT AND SOUND OF BATTLE...
A FLAMING, WHEELING DANCE OF DESTRUCTION...
INSTEAD OF SWORD AGAINST SWORD, OR SPEAR AGAINST SHIELD, THIS WAS THE SCREAM OF LASER CANNON AND THE HOWL OF ROCKETS...
...AND THE TORTURED SHRIEK OF EXPLODING METAL!
SKUEEOOM
UNTIL, FINALLY THE DECEPTICONS BROKE OFF THEIR ATTACK...

LEAVING THE AUTOBOTS VICTORIOUS... BUT FAR FROM JUBILANT...
WE HAVE WON THIS SKIRMISH BUT WHO KNOWS HOW FAST THE DECEPTICON THREAT IS GROWING?
WE CANNOT LEAVE THE EARTH NOW, JAZZ.
THE DECEPTICONS WOULD SOON OVERRUN THE PLANET.
ONLY WE FEW STAND IN THEIR WAY.
WE CANNOT LEAVE.
NOR CAN WE LEAVE THE RESCUE SHIP INTACT.
WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO DESTROY IT!
DEEP BENEATH THE AUTOBOTS' FEET, IN A SEALED CHAMBER, A SPECIAL AUTOBOT LAY WAITING...
HE WAS NAVIGATOR, WARRIOR AND GUARDIAN OF AUTOBOT DESTINY...
IN HIS LONG, SLOW, MACHINE WORLD, A MILLION YEARS WERE AS FLEETING SECONDS. HUMAN HISTORY HAD PASSED OVER HIM.
LOCKED IN HIS DORMANT BRAIN WAS THE LOCATION OF THE PLANET CYBERTRON. HE WAITED ONLY TO BE RE-ACTIVATED, RE-INTEGRATED WITH HIS MISSION...
RESTORED TO LIFE.
HIS ATTENDANT WAS NO MORE, THE LINK BETWEEN THEM SEVERED.
ALONE IN THE DARKNESS HE PATIENTLY BEAMED HIS SIGNAL, THE SAME PATTERN OF IMPULSES...
WAITING.


JAZZ COULD KNOW NOTHING OF THIS. HE ONLY KNEW OF HIS FRIENDSHIP WITH A SMALL BOY...
...AND WHAT COULD HAPPEN IF HIS ENEMIES PREVAILED
HE FIRED.
THE CRAFT, AND ALL ITS CONTENTS INSTANTLY VAPOURISED IN A MASSIVE IMPLOSION...
NOTHING REMAINED.

INSTRUCTIONS WERE ISSUED BY NAMELESS AUTHORITIES... TRUCKS CAME... ALL TRACES OF THE CRAFT AND ITS FINAL RESTING PLACE WERE OBLITERATED...
SUMMER CAME AROUND AGAIN... THE TOURISTS DESCENDED, ATTRACTED BY STORIES OF U.F.O.s AND MYSTERIOUS SIGHTINGS...
THEY FOUND ONLY AN EMPTY RUIN, ECHOING WITH MEMORIES

AUTUMN CAME, LEAVES FELL... SAMMY WAS A YEAR OLDER AND A YEAR WISER. HE NEVER SAW JAZZ AGAIN...
BUT ON CLEAR, SHARP NIGHTS, WHEN STARS GLITTERED LIKE NEEDLES AND THE NIGHT WINDS RATTLED HIS WINDOW...
THEN HE SLEPT A FITFUL, FEARFUL SLEEP.
...AND THE MAN OF IRON WALKED ONCE MORE THROUGH HIS DREAMS.
THE END